

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

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APPROVED BY ARA:JOHN BUSHNELL
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 045578

EXDIS, FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: PREPARATION FOR PRESIDENT'S VISIT

1. AS WE BEGIN ACTIVE PREPARATION FOR THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR PRELIMINARY THOUGHTS ON THE OVERALL THRUST OF THE VISIT, WHAT WE MIGHT REALISTICALLY HOPE TO ACHIEVE IN THE CURRENT SETTING AND THE FOCUS WE SHOULD GIVE TO SPECIFIC ISSUES.

2. THE OVERALL FOCUS, TONE AND ATMOSPHERICS OF THE VISIT SEEM TO US TO BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT. OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE BASIC DIFFERENCES ON SEVERAL ISSUES OF FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE. THIS IS A FACT OF LIFE WHICH NEITHER WE NOR THE BRAZILIANS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO HIDE. AT THE SAME TIME, IT WOULD BE MOST UNFORTUNATE IF THE VISIT WERE CAST EITHER

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AS A CONFRONTATION OR AS A U.S. RETREAT OR ACCOMMODATION IN THE FACE OF BRAZILIAN INTRANSIGENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS OR THE NUCLEAR ISSUE. EVEN IF IT IS PROPERLY HANDLED, WE FACE A REAL RISK OF SUCH MISINTERPRETATION, ONE WAY OR THE OTHER, IF NOT ON THE PART OF THE GOB, AT LEAST IN THE PUBLIC MIND OR ON THE PART OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS IN THE HEMISPHERE WHO WILL BE CLOSELY WATCHING THE VISIT FOR

SIGNS OF POLICY CHANGE. WITHOUT IN ANY WAY CEDING THE US

POSITION ON CONTENTIOUS ISSUES, WE THEREFORE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO CAST THE VISIT AND OUR TREATMENT OF SUCH ISSUES, BOTH WITH THE GOB AND PUBLIC, IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR RECOGNITION OF BRAZIL'S GROWING WORLD ROLE AND IN TERMS WHICH EMPHASIZE ALSO THOSE AREAS IN WHICH THE U.S. AND BRAZIL HAVE CONVERGING INTERESTS. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, WE WANT TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO LET IT APPEAR THAT BRAZIL IS OUR "CHOSEN" INSTRUMENT IN THE HEMISPHERE OR THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH BRAZIL IS MORE "SPECIAL" THAN WITH ANY OTHER COUNTRY. SIMILARLY, WE WANT THE VISIT TO UNDERSCORE OUR CONTINUED AND GENERAL COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS, AND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION.

3. ONE WAY TO ACHIEVE THIS MIGHT BE TO WORK TOWARD SIGNATURE DURING THE VISIT OF AGREEMENTS WHICH WOULD FOCUS ON U.S.-BRAZILIAN COOPERATION, SUCH AS AN EXPANDED S & T FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT (WHICH MIGHT PROVIDE AN UMBRELLA FOR SUBSEQUENT ELEMENTS OF OUR NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY PACKAGE TO BE DISCUSSED DURING THE VISIT). WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTS ON WHETHER IT IS FEASIBLE TO THINK IN TERMS OF SIGNING THIS OR POSSIBLY OTHER AGREEMENTS, SUCH AS A SHRIMP FISHERIES AGREEMENT, DURING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT.

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4. WE ARE RESPONSIVE TO THE IDEA OF USING A JOINT COMMUNIQUE AS A POSITIVE MODE FOR MANIFESTING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE VISIT AND ACCENTUATING THE COMMONALITIES, AS WELL AS NOTING THE INEVITABLE AREAS OF DIVERGENCE, IN A CAREFULLY MODULATED FASHION. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATION REGARDING THIS APPROACH AND SUGGESTIONS FOR RECASTING PREVIOUS DRAFT COMMUNIQUE IN THAT LIGHT.

5. SCOPE AND ISSUES PAPER FOR THE TRIP ARE NOW DUE IN DRAFT TO NSC MARCH 1. WE WILL REVIEW MATERIAL PREPARED FOR THE SECRETARY'S TRIP AND THE PRESIDENT'S POSTPONED NOVEMBER '77 TRIP, AS A BASIS FOR PREPARING AN UPDATED PAPER. TENTATIVELY WE BELIEVE PAPER SHOULD FOCUS ON FOLLOWING ISSUES:

A. BRAZIL'S GLOBAL ROLE AND OUR SHARED INTERESTS -- WOULD FOCUS ON U.S.-BRAZIL RELATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF BRAZIL'S GROWING WORLD ROLE AND THE INEVITABLE STRESSES THIS CREATES. SUCH A BROAD PERSPECTIVE WOULD RECOGNIZE BRAZIL'S ECONOMIC SUCCESS AND INCLUDE CONSULTATION

ON GLOBAL ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST WHERE WE MAY HAVE
COINCIDENCE OF VIEWS (OIL PRICES, AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS,
THE ARGUMENT THAT EUROPE AND JAPAN SHOULD ACCELERATE

THEIR ECONOMIES AS WE HAVE THEREBY FACILITATING BRAZILIAN
EXPORTS AND DIVERSIFICATION, ETC.).

B. NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES. WE WOULD RECAST PREVIOUS PAPER TO
FOCUS ON GLOBAL ISSUES, SUCH AS MTN (PARTICULARLY ON
SAFEGUARDS AND SUBSIDIES, AND BRAZIL'S PARTICIPATION IN
THE MTN) AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL QUESTIONS.

C. NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION. WE WILL CAREFULLY REVIEW
IN LIGHT OF GEISEL VISIT TO FRG BUT WOULD PARTICULARLY
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WELCOME YOUR PRELIMINARY THOUGHTS ON HOW THIS ISSUE
SHOULD BE HANDLED. WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED GEISEL'S
RESPONSE TO THE THORIUM PROPOSAL, AND PERHAPS YOU MAY
WANT TO REQUEST A RESPONSE AGAIN AS A WAY OF PREPARING
FOR THE VISIT.

D. NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY PACKAGE. RECOGNIZING OUR
COMMON VULNERABILITY IN THE INTERNATIONAL OIL MARKET,
WE MAY PROPOSE A BROAD PROGRAM OF COOPERATION IN NON-
CONVENTIONAL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. THIS
PROPOSAL IS SEPARATE FROM THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION
DISCUSSION.

E. HUMAN RIGHTS. RECOGNIZING GEISEL'S IMPROVEMENTS,
WE WOULD FOCUS ON OPENING THE POLITICAL PROCESS AND
CONTINUED PROGRESS ON SECURITY OF THE PERSON.

F. BILATERAL ECONOMIC ISSUES. AN UPDATE COVERING
SUBSIDIES/COUNTERVAILING DUTIES AND IMPORT RESTRICTIONS,
NOTING RECENT IMPROVEMENTS IN BRAZIL'S TRADE BALANCE.

G. OUR ARMS TRANSFER LIMITATIONS POLICY.
DISCUSS ISSUE GIVEN BRAZIL'S
SMALL BUT GROWING IMPORTANCE AS AN EXPORTER. THE QUESTION
OF WHETHER WE WOULD RESPOND TO ANY GOB OVERTURES ON THE
FUTURE FORM OF US-BRAZIL MILITARY COOPERATION IS NOW
SUBJECT TO INTERAGENCY DISCUSSION. DOES EMBASSY BELIEVE
THAT WE CAN EXPECT ANY SUCH OVERTURES?

H. REGIONAL ISSUES. AGAIN, THIS WOULD BE PRIMARILY
CONSULTATION AND WOULD COVER ISSUES SUCH AS: AMAZON
PACT, ANDES TENSIONS/BOLIVIAN SEA ACCESS, BEAGLE CHANNEL,
CARIBBEAN COOPERATION, IDB REPLENISHMENT, CUBA AND OAS
FUNDING.
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I. LAW OF THE SEA.

6. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY THOUGHTS YOU HAVE ON THIS LIST OF ISSUES AND THE TREATMENT OF TOPICS, USING PREVIOUS BRIEFING MATERIAL AS A BASIS FOR COMMENT OR

TREATMENT IF YOU WISH.

7. TO BE USEFUL TO US GIVEN THE TIMEFRAME, WE SHOULD HAVE YOUR OVERALL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS ON TREATMENT OF ISSUES NO LATER THAN OPENING OF BUSINESS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, AND PROPOSED DRAFT COMMUNIQUE BY COB MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE045578
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NORMAN BOUTON:ARA/PPC:NSSMITH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780082-0509
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780226/aaaaawbe.tel
Line Count: 189
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b8092bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3517024
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PREPARATION FOR PRESIDENT'S VISIT
TAGS: OVIP, (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: BRASILIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b8092bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014